

1939.



INTERIM
ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
COWES URBAN DISTRICT

BY
W. S. WALLACE, M.C., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

J. W. NEAL, Printer,
59, High Street, Cowes.

1940.

COUNTY HALL,
NEWPORT, I.W.

October, 1940.

To the Members of the Cowes Urban District Council :—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health of the 16th February, 1940, which is a guide as to the contents and arrangement of the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report, suggests that during the period of the war reports should be curtailed. A further circular 2067 dated 19th July urges the necessity for further curtailment of these reports and suggests that only interim reports should be made. For this reason this present report is composed mainly of statistical tables.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient Servant,

W. S. WALLACE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	5542
Population (Estimated Mid-year 1939)	A15580 B15900
Number of inhabited houses end of 1939 as per rate book	4553
Rateable value	£109482
Sum represented by a penny rate	£408

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

These are unchanged since the last report.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births :—	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	212	108	104
Illegitimate	14	7	7
Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	14'5		
Stillbirths :—			
Legitimate	4	3	1
Illegitimate	1	1	—
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	21'6		
Deaths	224	111	113
Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	14'1		
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth :—			
From Puerperal Sepsis			Nil
From other Puerperal causes			1
Total			1
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births			4'3
Death of Infants under one year of age :—			
All infants per 1000 live births			22'0
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births			18'8
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births			71'4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			33
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			—

BIRTHS.

The total number of births was 231. On the estimated population of 15,580 this gives a birth rate of 14'8 per 1000 living, the birth rate of England and Wales being 15'6.

A Population for calculation of birth rate.

B Population for calculation of death rate.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths in the district was 224. This gives a crude death rate of 14·1 per 1000 of the estimated resident population. The Registrar General gives a comparability factor of 0·79 which makes a corrected death rate of 11·1, the death rate for England and Wales being 12·1.

CAUSES OF DEATH :

The causes of the 224 deaths were as follows :—

<i>Causes of Death.</i>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
ALL CAUSES.					111	113
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...			—	—
2	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—
4	Whooping cough	...	...	...	1	—
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
6	Influenza	...	...	...	3	1
7	Encephalitis lethargica	...	...		—	—
8	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	—	—
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...			6	2
10	Other tuberculous diseases	...	...		—	1
11	Syphilis	...	...	...	—	—
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	—	—
13	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...		16	17
14	Diabetes	...	...	...	3	—
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...		4	12
16	Heart disease	...	...	...	34	34
17	Aneurysm	...	...	...	—	1
18	Other circulatory diseases	...	...		3	12
19	Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	1
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...		—	2
21	Other respiratory diseases	...	...		1	2
22	Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	2	—
23	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...			—	—
24	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	—
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	1	2
26	Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...		1	—
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...		2	3
28	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...		5	3

<i>Causes of Death.</i>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	—	—
30	Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	—	1
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	4	3
32	Senility	...	...	...	5	8
33	Suicide	...	...	...	4	1
34	Other violence	...	...	...	4	4
35	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	11	3
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	—	—
37	Diarrhoea (2 years and over)...	...	...	...	—	—
SPECIAL CAUSES (included in No. 35 above)						
	Small-pox	...	...	...	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
	Polioencephalitis...	...	...	...	—	—

INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under one year was 5, giving an Infant Mortality rate of 22'0 per 1000 registered live births, the rate for England and Wales being 50.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER.

The chlorinating plant for the surface supply was installed during the year. The fact that the chlorine has to be added before filtering has caused some difficulty and has not led to economy in the amount used. The large amount of suspended matter in the water from the reservoirs uses up a very large amount of chlorine.

Repeated samples of the raw, filtered and chlorinated water have been sent for bacteriological analyses and the results obtained have acted as a guide to the efficiency of the sterilisation of the water.

SECTION D. HOUSING.

The outbreak of hostilities has naturally caused consider-

able interference with the housing activities of the Local Authority.

The Council was fortunate in being able to complete its programme for rehousing the overcrowded. Eighteen cases on the books at the end of 1938 and four new cases occurring during 1939 were dealt with and 127 persons concerned were rehoused.

Only 294 houses were inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts and as a result two houses were found unfit and 225 not reasonably fit for human habitation.

237 defective dwelling-houses were rendered fit, and demolition orders were made in respect of two houses, one of which was demolished.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	76	..	350	771	1337
Number Inspected ...	72	...	340	751	1307
<i>All diseases except T.B.</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ... ..	...	...	...	...	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ...	...	...	...	...	'76%
<i>Tuberculosis Only</i>					
Whole carcasses c'demned	...	...	...	...	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ... ..	...	...	...	...	24
Percentage of number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	2'14%

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following table shows the amount of unsound food dealt with during the year.

4 Pigs	...	...	Generalized T.B.	...	356
1 Pig	...	...	Pyæmia	...	116
2 Pigs Plucks	...	...	Localized T.B.	...	19
7 Pigs Heads	...	...	Localized T.B.	...	48
15 sets Pigs mesenterics			Localized T.B.	...	70
Hindquarter Beef	...		Callouses	...	321
Hindquarter Beef	...		Black Mould	...	44
Fourquarter Beef	...		Unsound	...	222½
Hindquarter Beef	...		Bruised	...	35
1 Lamb	...	...	Unsound	...	32
Beef Fillets	...	...	Unsound	...	373½
6 Tins Corned Beef	...		Unsound	...	17
1 Tin Lunch Tongue	...		Unsound	...	1½
Fresh Fillets	...	...	Unsound	...	56
Fresh Mackerel	...	...	Unsound	...	63
16 Turkeys	...	...	Unsound	...	95
					<hr/>
					1869½ lbs
					<hr/>

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Non notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Measles	...	...	...	3
Mumps	...	...	...	1
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	106
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	47
Ringworm	...	...	...	6
Scabies	...	...	...	1
German Measles	...	...	...	2
Impetigo	...	...	...	17
Influenza	...	...	...	117
Influenza Colds	...	...	...	—

300

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease	Total cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	6	2	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	2	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	1	—
Pneumonia	4	—	—
<i>Erysipelas</i>	2	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	4	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Measles *	1	—	—
Totals	22	8	—

*Notifiable from 4th Quarter only.

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION.

Age.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Poliomyelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 " " 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 " " 4	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
4 " " 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5 " " 10	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—
10 " " 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
15 " " 20	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
20 " " 35	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
35 " " 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 " " 65	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 and over.	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Totals	6	—	2	3	4	2	1	4	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	Totals	New Cases.				Totals	Deaths.			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
0 and under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 " " 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 " " 10	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
10 " " 15	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
15 " " 20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 " " 25	4	2	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
25 " " 35	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
35 " " 45	3	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
45 " " 55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 " " 65	1	1	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	—
65 and upwards.	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
Total ...	13	6	1	4	2	9	6	2	—	1

